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Monday, May 16, 2015 www.metro.us | t:MetroPhilly | f:MetroPhilly

‘GAME OF THRONES’ ROMANCE

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CREW CONTROL

Libby Peters’ commitment to the sport of rowing, and to the Philadelphia community, has made her a local superstar. 30-31

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3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

TELEGRAPH: GOOGLE FACES RECORD 3 BILLION EURO ANTITRUST FINE

1 Google faces a record antitrust fine of around 3 billion euros ($3.4 billion) from the European Commission in the coming weeks, British newspaper The Sunday Telegraph said. The European Union has accused Google of promoting its shopping service in Internet searches at the expense of rival services in a case that has dragged on since late 2010. Several people familiar with the matter told Reuters last month they believed that after three failed attempts at a compromise in the past six years, Google now had no plans to try to settle the allegations unless the EU watchdog changed its stance. REUTERS

ISLAMIC STATE ATTACKS GAS PLANT NORTH OF BAGHDAD, KILLING 11

2 An Islamic State attack on a state-run gas plant in Baghdad's northern outskirts on Sunday killed at least 11 people, including policemen, and forced two power stations it supplied to suspend electricity production. A suicide car bomb went off at the entrance of the facility in Taji, allowing another vehicle carrying at least six attackers with explosive vests to enter and clash with security forces, police sources said. Twenty-one people were also wounded. The militant group said in an online statement that four fighters with machine guns had killed the guards at the plant which it said the Iraqi army was using as a headquarters. When reinforcements arrived, they set off a parked car bomb before clashing with the security forces and detonating their suicide vests. REUTERS

KERRY MEETS SAUDI KING TO DISCUSS SYRIA BEFORE VIENNA TALKS

3 Secretary of State John Kerry met Saudi Arabia's King Salman in Jeddah on Sunday to discuss the fragile truce in Syria, before broader talks with Russia, Iran and other countries in Vienna on Tuesday. Kerry has said he hopes to strengthen a "cessation of hostilities" agreement between Syrian government forces and rebels, which has been undermined by fighting in some areas, and to increase humanitarian aid deliveries to besieged areas.
On Friday, he said the meetings with the king and the Saudi interior and defense ministers — the two most senior princes — would try "to make sure that we can get this cessation better footed and, frankly, better observed and implemented throughout the country." REUTERS

YOUTUBE

BACK FROM THE WEATHER DEAD ... WITH APOLOGIES

Bolaris' Weather Watch

JOHN BOLARIS
@weathersavior

On Dec. 23, 2011, I faded to black.

It's a television term that means an ending of a show, or, in my case, the ending of one's career. Fox 29 and I parted ways on that day as I rode off into weather oblivion, never to be seen again on local television news.

It was painful and scary, as I was transported into an unknown abyss. It was a pure free-fall with no parachute, no ripcord, just a fall straight down from what at one time was the very highest of meteorological mountains.

I had achieved my childhood dream, after having set the bar very high by aspiring to one day become the meteorologist on CBS2 in New York on the 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts.

I lived the dream and more. I considered myself very blessed and fortunate, this kid who came from nothing, bad neighborhood, no money, just a dream.

The executive who helped pave my way to New York also led me back to Fox in Philadelphia. His name is Dennis Swanson, the president of station operations for Fox television station groups.

When my career unceremoniously ended, I felt not only had I let myself down, I had let down my daughter, my newsroom, respected colleagues, fans (I had a few), but especially Dennis for failing as a trusted newsroom leader.

For this I apologize, as I have nobody to blame but myself. Sometimes you just need to listen and keep your mouth shut. I failed miserably at that.

Fox, NBC and CBS all gave this kid an opportunity of a lifetime to live out my dream and for this I will always be grateful and now humbled.

You might be wondering, why is Bolaris bringing all this up now? Well, this past week I filled in on an upstart TV news station located in New Jersey called SNJ Today News. It opened up a flood of memories, as it sent me back in time when I was simply ecstatic just to be in a newsroom. It took me back to my roots, it reminded me just how much I miss it.

Philly

Today: Plenty of sun, breezy milder. High 66

Tuesday: Grab the umbrella. High 62

Wednesday: Morning drops. High 65

Thursday: Sun returns. High 72

Friday: Fantastic finish. High 75

Saturday: Sun and clouds. High 76

Sunday: Possible shower. High 73

Sometimes I wish I was that kid from Long Island who had this dream. … Those were the best days of my life.

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NTSB to announce Tuesday cause of Amtrak derailment

NTSB member Robert Sumwalt works on the scene of the Amtrak Train #188 derailment in Philadelphia. PROVIDED

Engineer recalls accelerating into sharp turn before train left the tracks, killing eight and injuring more than 200.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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The National Transportation Safety Board will announce on Tuesday the "probable cause" of the Amtrak #188 derailment in Philadelphia that killed eight people and injured more than 200 passengers.

The derailment occurred on May 12, 2015, at one of the sharpest curves along the Northeastern railroad corridor, as the train, traveling at 106 mph in a 50 mph speed-limit zone, flew off the rails just minutes outside of Center City.

At Tuesday's meeting, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) members will review details from the docket of investigatory materials previously made public in February before members vote to determine the crash's "probable cause."

Amtrak #188 was traveling from Washington, D.C., through Philly en route to New York City at the time of the crash.

Speculation about the cause of the derailment has focused on the engineer, Brandon Bostian, who told investigators he doesn't remember what caused the crash. His last memory before hitting the curve where the train derailed was accelerating, he told NTSB investigators.

"I pushed the throttle forward in order to accelerate from 70 to 80. And I don't remember anything from that point until after the train was already in the curve," Bostian said.

In two interviews with the NTSB, the transcripts of which are available online, Bostian told investigators he was familiar with the rail route out of Philly. Amtrak rails do not have speed-limit signs or other markers. Engineers memorize visual cues along the tracks that tell them when to adjust speed.

"After North Philadelphia, there are a few speed changes," Bostian told NTSB investigators in his second interview, in November 2015. "One of the significant speed changes is there's a 65 mph curve that leads into an 80 mph straightaway that leads into a 50 mph curve, I think, at Frankford Junction or around Frankford Junction area."

Frankford Junction, the curve in the tracks between Port Richmond and Kensington, was described by Bostian as something he remembered based on a SEPTA overpass before the curve, and because the curve looks like "a black abyss."

"For the 50 mph curve, it's difficult to see where the curve starts," Bostian admitted in his testimony. "As that track curves to the left, it kind of ... you're looking into somewhat of a black abyss. ... It would be easy to hit the curve a little bit hot by five or 10 mph if you weren't being careful and looking very carefully at the cues because it can sneak up on you."

Bostian repeatedly cautioned in his interview with investigators that due to injuries he sustained in the derailment, he is uncertain of his memories from the night of the derailment. But he testified that after a recollection of accelerating to 80, the next thing he remembered was being in the curve at Frankford Junction and applying the brakes.

"I remember feeling my body lurch to the right, toward the right side of the engine. I remember feeling as though I was going too fast around a curve," Bostian told investigators, saying he first applied a 10-pound brake.

"I realized from the force on my body, I realized that this is something that's very serious and I need to bring down the train speed quickly," he added, stating he then applied full brakes, and then the emergency brake, as the train derailed.

If Bostian lost his bearings while guiding the train, the cause of the derailment could be chalked up to a loss of "situational awareness" on the engineers part.

Experts have said that the derailment could have been prevented by "Positive Train Control" — automated braking technology that prevents trains from traveling above the speed limit, which was not in place on this section of track at the time of the crash.

Amtrak activated the system between D.C. and New York in December 2015 to meet a federal deadline.

Lawsuits filed by those killed or hurt during the derailment against Amtrak are still pending.

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Jim and Elaine Riggs outside the Philadelphia Museum of Art on Wednesday, May 11, 2016. COURTNEY SMYTH

Not-so-accidental tourists

Tennessee couple, who chose Philly after winning vacation sweepstakes 25 years ago, make a return visit to a changed city.

JENNY DEHUFF
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Elaine and Jim Riggs made news 25 years ago when, after winning a vacation sweepstakes that let them go anywhere in the country — Las Vegas, Honolulu, Disneyland — they chose Philadelphia.

In 1991, the City of Brotherly Love had a less than sterling reputation as a tourist destination, despite its historical attractions. One play on its slogan of the day called it "The Place That Doesn't Even Try to Love You Back."

Last week, the Tennessee couple visited Philly for the first time in a quarter century, returning at the invitation of Visit Philly to a city named by travel guide publisher Lonely Planet the No. 1 place to visit in the U.S. this year.

It's always been No. 1 with Elaine Riggs, who was drawn to pick Philly over any other destination in the country because of her love of historic places.

"History can be pretty boring for a kid, but when you can see it, almost feel it — touch it — it brings it to a whole different level," she said.

Visit Philly, the city's tourism arm, picked up the tab for the Riggses' return trip and helped arrange for them to revisit some of the same locations as a reward for loving Philly when few others did.

As they gazed out onto Dilworth Park, it was unrecognizable from the drab slabs of concrete that was once Dilworth Plaza along the west side of City Hall in 1991.

Now, its bubbling fountains lure children to splash in them, surrounded by lush greenery and bright pink tables and chairs for outdoor seating — a total transformation.

"The addition of so many modern facilities and modern buildings that have been mixed in with the authentic, original buildings that were here, its been done so tastefully," said Elaine Riggs. "You know, the growth, obviously, that has occurred, that's probably been the most memorable."

Visit Philly offered the couple an itinerary, and they loosely followed it — taking trips to the art museum and the "Rocky" statue at the bottom of the steps to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Robert Indiana's "LOVE" statue, the Italian Market and City Hall, where they met Mayor Jim Kenney, who invited them into his office for a chat.

The Riggses left with a new Phillies baseball signed by the mayor.

"The other thing that we really noticed was so many people doing so many fun things, like whether they're working downtown or in the restaurants at night or bodegas, we just think that so many young people — millennials, Gen-Xers and people our age, — are walking around, enjoying the city, and I don't think we saw that in '91," said Jim Riggs.

"There's a music scene and an arts scene, and that's different, that's real different. There was none of that back then. I won't say there weren't people downtown, but there weren't people having fun downtown like there are now."

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BRIEFS

Teen charged with throwing railroad spikes from overpass at cars

An 18-year-old is facing charges after police say they caught him throwing railroad spikes and rocks from an overpass onto the windshields of cars passing below

Blake Bowers, 18, is charged with aggravated assault and reckless endangerment of another person, police said Sunday.

Bowers, who lives on Montgomery Avenue, has no prior criminal record in Philly.

Police were called to the 600 block of University Avenue in West Philly around 8:20 p.m. on Friday evening, where they found four drivers who had each had their vehicles damaged while driving under a railroad overpass toward Interstate 76.

"The damage was caused by objects thrown from the overpass," a police report states, a height of some 40 feet above the street.

A 45-year-old male driver told police "that after his windshield was broken by the thrown object, he parked, exited his vehicle and saw the defendant on the train tracks," according to a police report on the incident.

University of Pennsylvania police stopped Bowers and brought him to a nearby police station for questioning, police said.

A 50-year-old driver was treated for "minor injuries" after his windshield was broken, sending shards of glass into his eyes, Philly.com reported.

Police said they found three metal railroad spikes, two metal railroad clamps and one rock at the scene.

No motive was listed.

SAM NEWHOUSE

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Robert F. Wilson III at an event inside the 22nd District in December 2014. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Obama honoring slain Philly cop with highest law enforcement medal

Robert Wilson III gunned down during attempted armed robbery while shielding customers.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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Sgt. Robert F. Wilson III, the Philadelphia police officer killed in a hail of gunfire after interrupting an armed robbery, will be posthumously honored by President Barack Obama.

Obama will award the Medal of Valor to Wilson and 12 others during a ceremony at 11 a.m. on Monday morning, the White House said.

The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor is the highest national award given to public safety officers "who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in the attempt to save or protect others from harm," the White House said.

The White House said Wilson will get the Medal of Valor "for giving his life to protect innocent civilians. Sergeant Wilson put himself in harm's way during an armed robbery, drawing fire from the assailants and suffering a mortal wound as he kept store employees and customers safe."

Wilson, an officer with the 22nd District, was shot to death on March 5, 2015, inside a Gamestop at 21st Street and Lehigh Avenue, by two armed robbers.

Wilson had entered the store to get a present for his son when, according to police, brothers Carlton Hipps and Ramone Williams entered intending to rob the store, not knowing an on-duty police officer was inside.

Former Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said Wilson moved towards the two men to draw their attention away from customers and staff inside the store, before both opened fire.

Wilson died that night. Ramone and Hipps were both arrested shortly after the shooting.

Surveillance video of the shooting has never been released.

Wilson was posthumously promoted from officer to sergeant, and the Philadelphia Medal of Valor award was renamed the Robert F. Wilson Medal in his honor.

Wilson, an officer with eight years on the force, left behind two sons, Robert Wilson IV and Quahmier.

Hipps and Williams, who were allegedly on a robbery spree in the months leading up to Wilson's murder, are both awaiting trial on first-degree murder charges for the officer's death.

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Facebook's CEO to meet conservatives on political bias flap

Facebook came under fire last week when an unnamed former employee told technology news website Gizmodo that workers often omitted conservative political stories from the company's "trending" list of topics.

Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg will meet this week with prominent conservatives in the media, a spokesman said on Sunday, to address allegations of political bias at the popular social networking site.

Some 12 "conservative thought leaders" will join the meeting with Zuckerberg on Wednesday, a Facebook spokesman said. Among the invitees are media personality Glenn Beck, Fox News Channel's "The Five" co-host Dana Perino and Zac Moffatt, co-founder of Targeted Victory, a technology company that aims to bring transparency to media buying.

Zuckerberg said Facebook has "found no evidence that this report is true," but would continue to investigate. A U.S. Senate committee has also opened an inquiry into Facebook's practices.

Beck, a former Fox News host, took to Facebook early Sunday to say he is going to the meeting in Menlo Park, California, and "it would be interesting to look him [Zuckerberg] in the eye as he explains."

"While they are a private business and I support their right to run it any way they desire without government interference," Beck said, "it would be wonderful if a tool like face book [sic] INDEPENDENTLY CHOSE to hold up Freedom of speech and freedom of association as a corporate principle."

On Friday, Facebook outlined its "Trending Topics" guidelines in its media relations section and stated that reviewers are neither allowed nor advised to discriminate against sources.

Mark Zuckerberg GETTY IMAGES

Facebook, now valued at around $350 billion, has become a bigger source of news for its more than one billion daily active users. Sixty-three percent of users, or 41 percent of all U.S. adults, say they get news from the site, according to a study last year by the Pew Research Center and the Knight Foundation. REUTERS

BRIEF

Philly man kills self after traffic stop on PA turnpike

A Philadelphia man who was pulled over by state police for erratic driving on the Pennsylvania Turnpike responded by raising a gun to his head and killing himself.

Emmanuel Giddings, Jr., 22, shot himself in the head on Friday after being pulled over in Bear Creek Township, the Times Leader reported.

State police said Giddings was spotted after troopers saw his 2001 Chevy Impala driving in the turnpike's northbound lane in an "erratic manner" around 10:32 p.m. Friday.

When a trooper asked Giddings to get out of the vehicle for a sobriety test, he pulled out a handgun and shot himself in the head, according to the Times Leader. Police found unspecified "illegal drugs" in Giddings' car. SAM NEWHOUSE

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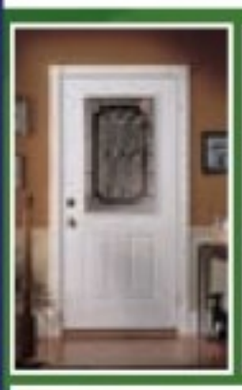

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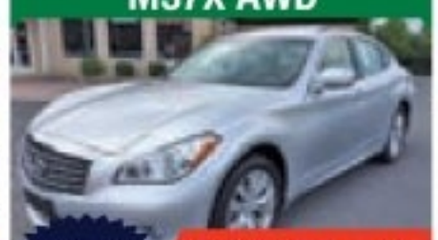
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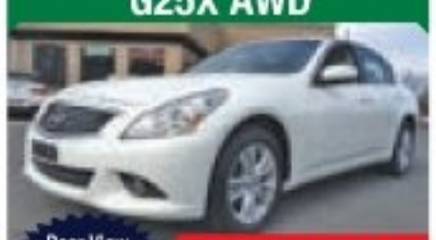
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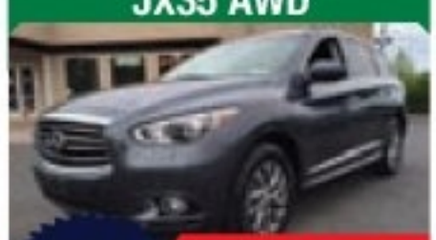
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Netanyahu tells France's Ayrault he still opposes peace conference

Palestinians welcomed the proposal but Israel is concerned that the conference that France seeks to hold in the autumn would try to dictate terms for a peace deal.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told France's foreign minister on Sunday that Israel remained opposed to a French initiative for an international conference to try to revive peace talks.

In public remarks to his cabinet after meeting France's Jean-Marc Ayrault, Netanyahu said: "I told him the only way to advance genuine peace between us and the Palestinians is through direct negotiations between us and them, without preconditions."

Israel made the same argument in the formal response it gave last month. France hopes an international conference would set out a framework for peace negotiations, after U.S. efforts to broker a two-state deal collapsed in April 2014.

"I know that Netanyahu does not agree (to the French proposal)," Ayrault told reporters after his talks with the Israeli leader in Jerusalem and a meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in the occupied West Bank.

Ayrault said France would continue to pursue the initiative and that its ultimate goal was for both sides to return to direct talks, with international intervention laying the groundwork.

"It is very clear to us, and I said this today to both the prime minister and to President Abbas, that we cannot take the place of the two parties," he said at Tel Aviv's Ben-Gurion airport at the end of a one-day visit to promote the plan.

"Only they can conduct direct negotiations to achieve a solution," Ayrault said. "But because things are currently stuck ... external intervention is necessary to provide renewed momentum."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (R) shakes hands with French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault on Sunday during a meeting at the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem. GETTY IMAGES

An international gathering of ministers, tentatively planned for May 30 in Paris, is set to include the Middle East Quartet (the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations), the Arab League, the U.N. Security Council and about 20 countries, without Israeli or Palestinian participation. REUTERS

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Coal mining protest disrupts Germany

Activists of the environmental organization Robin Wood roped themselves to a railway bridge blocking a railway track in direction of the coal mine company Vattenfall factory Schwarze Pumpe on Sunday near Spremberg, Germany. The activists, part of a movement called "Ende Gelaende," are demanding an end to the use of coal for energy production in favor of renewable energy means. The Welzow Sued mine is operated by Vattenfall but is in the process of being sold to the Czech energy company EPH. GETTY IMAGES

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Sunday Times: Russian sports minister apologizes over doping, pleads for Rio entry

Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko has issued a plea for Russia's athletes to be allowed to compete in the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games and apologized for the "deceptive" sportsmen caught doping in the past in an article he wrote for Britain's Sunday Times.

With less than three months before the Rio Games open in August, Moscow is seeking to have a global ban overturned to allow its track and field athletes to compete.

The All-Russia Athletic Federation (ARAF) was suspended from the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) after several high-profile Russian athletes were caught red-handed in using banned performance-enhanced substances.

"Serious mistakes have been made by the federation management, along with athletes and coaches … We are ashamed of them," Mutko said in his strongest comments over the doping scandal.

Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko
GETTY IMAGES

"We are very sorry that athletes who tried to deceive us, and the world, were not caught sooner. We are very sorry because Russia is committed to upholding the highest standards in sport and is opposed to anything that threatens the Olympic values."

Russia, second behind the United States in the athletics medal table at the 2012 London Olympics, is banned from all athletics after an independent commission of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) revealed widespread doping.

WADA President Craig Reedie told BBC radio in an interview on Saturday that it was "highly unlikely" that Russia's anti-doping authority would be declared compliant with world sports rules in time for Rio.

Russia has to convince the IAAF that it has put in place measures to show improvement in its anti-doping operation and a "change of culture."

REUTERS

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Suspicious package found during Premier League match in England

A bomb disposal team carried out a controlled explosion on a suspect device — later described as not viable — inside Manchester United's stadium on Sunday after the club's English Premier League match against Bournemouth was abandoned.

Two of the Old Trafford stands were evacuated about 20 minutes before the scheduled kickoff at 2 p.m. GMT on discovery of the suspicious package. Soon after, the game was called off and the whole 75,000-seater stadium cleared.

Police investigated the package and used sniffer dogs to search the area, before calling in an army bomb disposal unit. TV footage showed fire engines arriving at the stadium.

"Bomb disposal experts carried out controlled explosion at Old Trafford on what is described as incredibly lifelike explosive device," Greater Manchester Police said later on Twitter.

"Full assessment now concluded and found device wasn't viable. A full search of the stadium is ongoing."

On Wednesday Britain raised the threat level from dissident Northern Ireland militants to "substantial," meaning an attack on the British mainland is considered a strong possibility.

Manchester United said in a statement on its website the package had been found in the North West Quadrant, and the match abandoned on police advice.

"We don't make these decisions lightly and we have done this today to ensure the safety of all those attending," Assistant Chief Constable John O'Hare said in a statement.

Security checks are made at Old Trafford in Manchester, England. GETTY IMAGES

United cannot qualify for next season's Champions League, after Manchester City drew at Swansea City on Sunday. They are sixth in the Premier League table and would move above Southampton into fifth with a draw or victory against Bournemouth.

They play Crystal Palace in the FA Cup final on Saturday and it is not clear when a rescheduled game against Bournemouth, its final Premier League match of the season, will be played.

In a statement posted on Twitter, the Premier League said it would seek to rearrange the fixture "as soon as practically possible."

"When it comes to matters of security it is obviously right that Manchester United and the Premier League place the safety of supporters and employees foremost," it said. REUTERS

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Mariah Carey displays classic Mariah Carey behavior

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That's our Mariah! Infamous diva Mariah Carey was up to her old tricks at the GLAAD Media Awards this weekend, where she was honored with a prestigious award. According to Radar Online, her outrageous behavior included showing up one and a half hours late because "the red carpet had to be clear of all other celebrities," a source says. But once it was appropriately clear, she wasn't done with her demands. "She told a reporter that they had to move the camera to catch her 'good side,'" the source adds. Now, that doesn't seem right. I can't imagine Carey considering any side of her not good.

Ruby Rose gets rowdy in New Orleans

"Orange is the New Black" star Ruby Rose got herself kicked out of a New Orleans restaurant after her method of registering her displeasure at the speed of service didn't go over too well. Oddly, restaurant workers aren't the biggest fans of having french fries chucked at them while on the job. Weird, right? "She was having a tantrum. She was awful," the owner of the Rebellion Bar and Urban Kitchen tells NOLA.com. "She was a horrible person." Rose and friends were apparently seated at the bar and were not happy about how long it was taking for their food and drinks to arrive, so she chucked some fries at a passing bartender. "He thought maybe it was an accident, so he came back and he asked, 'Is everything OK?' And she picked up a handful of french fries and threw them at him," the owner explained. "I think she was like … trying to be a bully."

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Ellen makes 'Lemonade'

Sure, "Lemonade" was great, but maybe you weren't watching closely and missed the Ellen DeGeneres cameo. In case you did, the talk show host has this clip of her just chilling in an El Camino while Beyonce sings "Hold Up" and strolls down the sidewalk. "I think she hates cars," DeGeneres observes on the phone. "Becky, I'm going to have to call you back. But I do love what you're doing with your hair. It looks great." Speaking of Becky, keep watching for a very surprising cameo.

Kit Harington dishes on love life

We finally know something. "Game of Thrones" star Kit Harington and his girlfriend, former co-star Rose Leslie, have generally been press shy about their romance, but I guess now that Harington's character — spoiler alert! — has been brought back from the dead, he's ginned up some more publicity. He told Vogue Italia about why filming Season 2 in Iceland was his favorite experience. "Because the country is beautiful, because the Northern Lights are magical, and because it was there that I fell in love," he said. "If you're already attracted to someone and then they play your love interest … it becomes very easy to fall in love."

That time J.Law tried to dance her way into 'Star Wars'

Maybe you've forgotten about how Jennifer Lawrence is your adorably awkward best friend hidden inside a beautiful Oscar-winning movie star, but luckily she has a brand new anecdote to remind you. Lawrence told Graham Norton during a visit to his talk show about the time she was at an event and spotted a table that included J.J. Abrams and Harrison Ford. "I was like, 'Be right back guys, I'm going to say hi to the "Star Wars" dudes,'" she says, describing how she approached their table and began dancing super-awkwardly. Which apparently didn't go over so well. "The whole table was just like [dumbfounded]. And so I realized while I was dancing, they had no idea who I am. So I turned around and walked back," she says, adding that she "humiliated myself more than I ever have before." Well, for now, at least.

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Dapper dudes are back

Indochino makes made-to-order suits accessible.

TINA CHADHA
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"We do see a trend of men dressing up again, but not traditional suits from the '50s — more separates and lighter weights."

Kearnan

Here's how to stand out at your next summer wedding. PROVIDED

Listen up, guys: There are more options for you than the standard black suit.

"We're seeing a lot of color especially in the lavender family for men. Anything in blue — but more of a green blue, that teal feeling is coming on strong," says Tom Kearnan, fashion director at Indochino, about the season's big trends. The hip and affordable made-to-measure suiting brand — prices for a custom suit start at $499 and the whole process can be done online — recently launched its summer collection of bright styles and sharp checks, and is also seeing an uptick in accessories in the men's market. Items such as pocket squares "can be a huge conversation starter," he says.

However, if you're a groom-to-be shopping for your big day, Kearnan says the gray in Indochino's Essential collection is the most in-demand.

"The groom and the groomsmen are still the backup dancers to the bride," he says. "But a gray suit is such a chameleon — it can take on any color. So any theme around the floral arrangements or bridesmaids dresses can easily be played around it."

But that doesn't mean the bride and her ladies have all the fun. At Indochino, wedding parties can customize almost every detail of their suit, from the lapel size to jacket lining (retro hula girls, anyone?) to personalized monogramming.

And if a groom has four or more groomsmen fit by Indochino, the brand's Suit Up Weddings initiative will offer the main man his suit free. Did someone just free up the wedding budget for more booze?

Suit Up Wedding

To take part in the program, the groom and his groomsmen have to schedule an appointment at the Indochino showroom.

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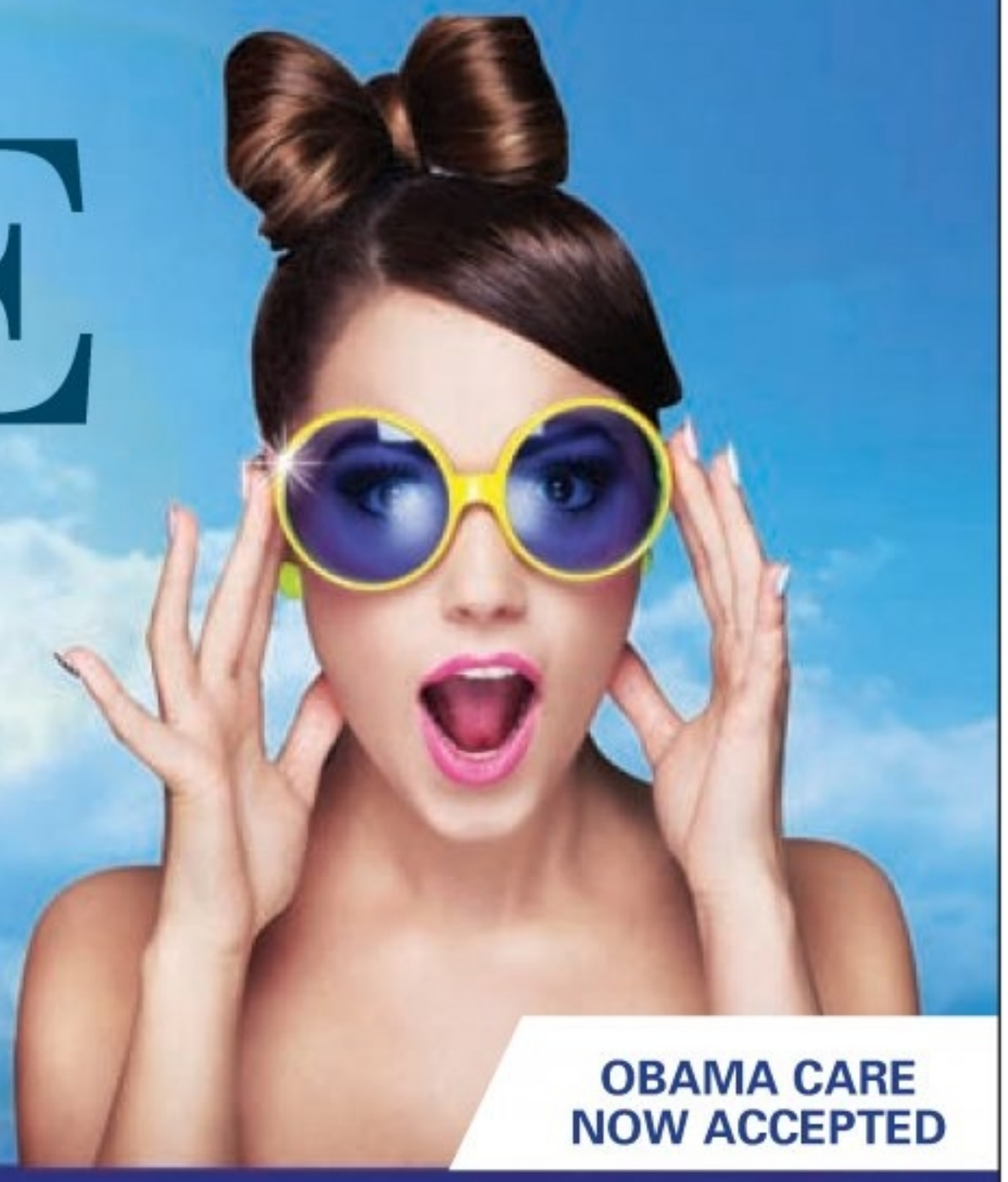

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For the not-basic bride

Christian Siriano might be known for his dramatic ball gowns, but he's really feeling suits.

TINA CHADHA
@TinaatMetro
tina.chadha@metro.us

Designer and reality TV darling Christian Siriano cut his teeth creating bridal gowns before dazzling us with his sassy quips and larger-than-life glamour on "Project Runway."

The 30-year-old, who counts Sarah Jessica Parker, Rihanna and Jennifer Lopez as fans, and has been creating one-of-a kind bridal gowns for friends and custom-ers by request, recently launched an official collection for Kleinfeld Bridal.

The 27-piece line ranges from $3,000 to $19,000 and is available in sizes from petite to plus.

We caught up with Siriano before his debut runway show.

What's a bridal trend that drives you crazy?
I'm not a huge fan of the overly sexy bride. You can be really sexy and beautiful and still be covered. I've also never been a big fan of mesh cut outs everywhere — I think that's weird for a wedding when grandma's there.

Who's wedding wowed you?
I was a huge fan of when Gwen Stefani got married because I loved her ombré dress. There are some dresses that just stick in your mind.

What's your current favorite look for a bride?
We have a suit in the collection that is actually my favorite piece. Even though we have lots of ball gowns — and I love that — but I really like the suit a lot.

Do you think brides should change after a ceremony?
I like a party dress. They should do first dance in their dress and then change to get wild.

"We have a really soft ballerina pink and then a really colorful one, just to throw a wild card."
Christian Siriano

ALL PHOTOS DAN LECCA

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Dazzle your friends with the perfect spring dinner

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Directions:

1 Make couscous
Bring 3/4 cup water and a of pinch salt to a boil in a small saucepan. Add couscous, stir and cover. Remove from heat and set aside to steam, 5 minutes. Fluff with a fork and cover until ready to serve.

2 Sauté aromatics
Peel and thinly slice garlic. Heat 2 tablespoons oil in a medium pot over medium-high. Add garlic and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add fennel seed and crushed red pepper and cook, stirring, 1

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Recipe

MARLEY SPOON

Cod in Tomato Broth with Couscous, Almonds & Currants

This simple seafood stew is one of our favorites.

Garlic, fennel seed and crushed red pepper lay the foundation for a quick tomato broth. It's one of our go-to dishes to entertain with: Whip up the flavorful base and poach the fish just before serving. Cook, relax and enjoy!

Cooking time: 30-40 minutes
Attributes: fish
Calories: 600 kcal/person
Allergens: gluten, tree nuts
Added fat: 2 tbsp of oil

What we send
- 3/4 cup couscous (4.5 oz)
- 2 cloves garlic (0.4 oz)
- 1/2 tsp fennel seed (0.05 oz)
- 1/4 tsp crushed red pepper (0.02 oz)
- 1 14-oz can baby roma tomatoes (Mutti)
- 12 oz cod (can be one piece or 2 pieces)
- 3 tbsp currants (0.8 oz)
- 1 oz whole roasted almonds
- 1 oz scallions (2)

What you need
- coarse salt
- olive oil
- freshly ground black pepper

Equipment
- small saucepan
- medium pot

minute.

3 Simmer
Add tomatoes, 1 cup water and 1 teaspoon salt and bring to a simmer. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until slightly reduced, about 10 minutes.

4 Cook cod
While broth simmers, cut cod into 1–2-inch pieces and season with salt and pepper. Add cod and currants to broth, cover and cook, 5 minutes. Uncover, stir and cover and cook until cod is cooked through, 5 minutes more.

5 Prep garnishes
Roughly chop almonds. Trim scallions and thinly slice.

6 Serve
Season broth to taste with salt and pepper. Serve cod and broth over couscous, topped with almonds and scallions. Enjoy!

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Jack O'Connell wants to do Hollywood his way

The star of "Unbroken" gets to show off his range in Jodie Foster's thriller "Money Monster."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

Jack O'Connell is a fan of New York but not so much Wall Street. He doesn't mean all the greed monsters down there, though they don't come off well in his new film, which is in fact called "Money Monster." The English actor refers to how the combination of high traffic and the narrowing tail of the island can actually be dangerous when someone is in need of ambulances, which he noticed while filming there.

"You'd see these emergency services forced to cut through the streets we blocked off, fire trucks taking a U-turn, having a nosy," O'Connell says, dropping in some homeland slang. "It was slightly disturbing."

"Money Monster" is O'Connell's second big Hollywood movie, after a series of electric turns in movies back home. He scored raves for the prison drama "Starred Up" and the IRA thriller "'71." The actor was promising enough that Angelina Jolie took a chance, casting the unknown as Olympiad-turned-POW Louis Zamperini in "Unbroken."

GETTY IMAGES

That role is quite different from O'Connell's early work, which saw him typecast as aggro delinquents, in films like "This Is England" and the show "Skins." Just as he's been trying to stay well-behaved, following a youth spent being self-destructive, O'Connell is adamant about stretching his legs.

"My respect for actors comes when I see them really pushing themselves and performing out of their comfort zones," O'Connell says. "I admire character actors. Speaking selfishly, I consider myself quite observant. Ideally I'd like to establish myself as someone who can be unique and change my strengths."

"Money Monster" — which finds him directed by another actress-turned-filmmaker, Jodie Foster — is another angry role: He plays Kyle, a working-class New Yorker who's lost all his money on a stock recommendation from George Clooney's Lee Gates, a Jim Cramer-type with his own popular (and often reckless) investment show. Kyle is so desperate he crashes a live show, armed with a gun and bombs, wanting to expose corruption on Wall Street. For O'Connell it meant spending most of the shoot frazzled and shout-y, though also vulnerable — a regular guy in way over his head.

"Kyle enters the movie with a lot of energy. He's coming from a desperate place. I had to stay true to that vocally, to get to a place where I felt I could improvise with a foreign dialect," he says, referring to his very thick Central England accent. (He's from Derby.) "That was a huge challenge, because the movie required a bit of freedom and spontaneity in places.

Jack O'Connell plays a regular Joe who takes the star of a hit money show (George Clooney) hostage in Jodie Foster's "Money Monster." ATSUSHI NISHIJIMA

"There's a difference between impersonating as an actor and trying to do something that feels lived-in," he says. "I won't settle for anything less than the letter there."

O'Connell earned a lot of acclaim for "Unbroken," which went on to be one of 2014's highest grossers. To American viewers — and Hollywood execs — he was still a newbie, despite his long CV in the U.K. What kinds of films was he being offered right after?

"Typically the roles you really want aren't the ones you get offered," O'Connell says. "People would offer you obvious choices that aren't risky in terms of casting. When I reflect on my body of work, it's going to have to be diverse and interesting. And those opportunities aren't easy to come by. It can still be a little frustrating — but if it's worth doing it's not going to be easy, is it?"

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Bringing hope to the homeless

Lolly Galvin is traveling across the country distributing "Dignity Bags" to those in need.

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Lolly Galvin hadn't even spoken to a homeless person until she was 31 years old. She'd been influenced, like many others, to believe people living on streets and sidewalks were dangerous addicts who'd put themselves in these situations through laziness or licentiousness.

But Galvin found that wasn't always so, and in the past four months she's raised $12,000 for what she calls "Dignity Bags." This week she took off on a 12-city tour, taking the homeless outreach she's been so successful with in Philadelphia on the road.

"Homelessness doesn't always look like someone on the side of the street — a lot of people feel like they can't approach certain people, and there's a huge stigma," she says.

Her bags are full of little things the homeless need most: toiletries like soap and shampoo; clean, dry socks; nail clippers, combs and razors; and when she can, a high-protein, easy-to-eat snack.

But it's about more than handouts. Galvin says it's mostly about spending a moment with someone who's ignored all day, everyday.

"I'm just trying to have people take a minute and be present. For me, it's sitting next to them, it's talking, it's sharing lunch," she says. Setting bag recipients onto a better path isn't necessarily the goal. "It's not 'What are you gonna do next?' It's sharing a moment and listening and learning and giving them a brief moment of a connection with another human being."

Lolly Galvin is traveling to 12 cities to help the homeless. PROVIDED

It started when she declared on Periscope, a social media platform, that she'd make a go at random acts of kindness. She took a homeless man named Tom to Five Guys for a burger, she shared his story on her private Facebook and Instagram, and the Dignity Project was born.

"People just loved his story, he really resonated with them," she said. "I started documenting the homeless people I met and their stories, and I started getting more and more donations. Now I'm getting messages from people around the world: Australia, France, England, Ireland — yesterday someone wrote me from Pakistan. It's amazing the reach social media has if you want to do something good."

> *"It's amazing the reach social media has if you want to do something good."*
> Galvin

The LaSalle University grad and New Jersey native says she got a good deal on a rental van, which she'll live out of for a month, and she's paying all expenses associated with the travel. The entirety of the $12,000 she raised is going into the bags. She's so Instagram-savvy that her efforts in Washington, D.C., late last week collected hundreds of double-taps in hours. And the testimonies she's heard break her heart.

"They hear their own name about once every three months," she reports. Most of the time, they end up on the street because they don't have the safety network many of us don't realize we enjoy. "You or I might have a relative. No one took them in — they had nowhere else to turn to," she says. The most common reason she hears for homelessness is devastating: "I had no one."

Dignity Project

Be sure to follow Lolly on her journey @realhumanist on Instagram.

For more information on The Dignity Project, visit Dignityproject.co.

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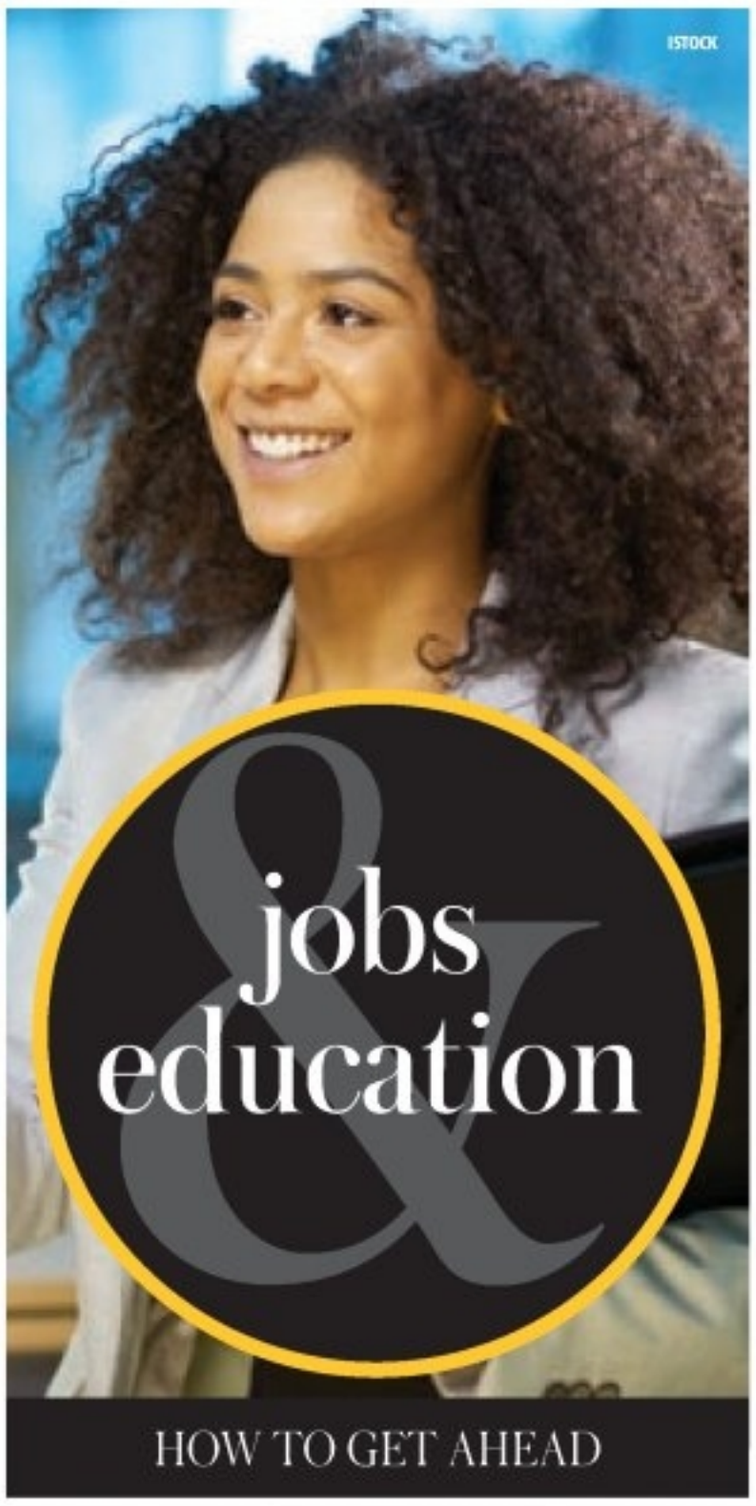

Facing your interview fears

Understanding the subtext of these classic questions can put you more at ease.

ALIZAH SALARIO
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Acing an interview requires preparation, self-awareness and confidence. This we know. So why is it that so many people approach interviews as if they were interrogations and wind up flopping around like a fish out of water?

"People often leave [interviews] feeling like they weren't prepared, or as though they didn't come off in the best light," says James Reed, the chairman of the U.K.-based recruitment firm Reed and the author of "Why You?: 101 Job Interview Questions You'll Never Fear Again."

Reed says decades of working with recruiters taught him to identify classic interview questions — and the unspoken intentions behind them. In his book, Reed identifies 15 classic questions, and he shared his insights on three of them. Here's how Reed says you can ace your interview:

1 "Tell me about yourself"

Hands down, this is the most common question recruiters will ask. "It's a big, open question, and on the face of it, it's not a threatening question. But what it does is it separates the people who have prepared from the people who have not," says Reed. "The real question is, 'Who do you think you are, and do you know what to leave in and what to leave out?'"

Reed suggests keeping the answer 90 percent professional and 10 percent personal. It should be thought through beforehand, and structured as a "short, sort of pithy, memorable answer."

Says Reed, "If you've got that prepared, and if you give it at the very beginning of the interview, then you've got off to a good start. It gets the conversation is running."

2 "What are your weaknesses?"

Warning: This is not an opportunity to divulge your deepest fears and neuroses.

Instead, says Reed, "in answering this question, you can reflect on what you have to bring in a more sensible way. The important thing is to level with the interviewer. I've had people say things like 'chocolate,' but I wouldn't recommend that because it doesn't carry the conversation forward."

Reed suggests thinking of weaknesses as "the flipside of strengths."

"If I were to answer, I would say I was impatient. Which can be a strength if you're trying to get things done, but if you're involved in a negotiation, it's certainly a weakness. It's about having a degree of self-awareness," says the expert.

3 "Why do you want to work here?"

On the face of it, this is an ego-stroking question that gives you an opening to wax about how much you have to offer. But really, it's not about you.

"A lot of people forget a job is a problem to be solved. You should be thinking about how you get the job done."

First, says Reed, make sure you've done your research. Know what needs to be done, and know how your unique background can help achieve that. Then get specific by "reflecting the job spec in every aspect of your answer."

Above all, remember: An interview is a chance to tell recruiters something they don't know.

Says Reed, "An interviewer has your résumé. They've seen your qualifications, they've seen what you've done. They don't know much yet about your personality. They want to find out more about your character. And as much as they want to find the right person, you want to find the right job."

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3 reasons to consider a charter school

For more information on Philadelphia charter schools, visit: webgui.phila.k12.pa.us/offices/c/charter_schools. ISTOCK

When a ZIP code doesn't determine your school, some families opt for less traditional classrooms.

MONICA WEYMOUTH
@MetroPhilly
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Although students are traditionally the ones cramming in May, many parents are feeling the pressure, too. With charter application deadlines looming and some schools already wait-listing prospective students, it's go-time if you're considering enrolling your child in an alternative school. So why might you? Every family's needs are different, but here are three reasons charters have become popular options for some parents.

1 Choice

If the neighborhood school doesn't meet your standards, writing a hefty check to a private academy is no longer your only option. "As a parent, I want a choice — every parent wants a choice," says Nina Rees, president and CEO of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, an advocacy and research organization. "Charters offer options and access to high-quality schools regardless of ZIP code. For some families, they're really a lifeline, the first step in breaking a cycle of poverty."

"As a parent, I want a choice — every parent wants a choice."
Rees

2 Innovative curriculums

As independently operated public schools, charters are low on red tape, opening up possibilities in the classroom and beyond. Philadelphia charter schools — which offer concentrations in everything from STEM to folk arts to maritime careers — design their own academic programs, select their own textbooks, determine the length of school days and create their own extracurricular offerings. "In general, charter schools have less bureaucracy and more autonomy," says Cynthia Millinger, a former educator and founder of consulting services Charter School Essentials and Charter School Startup. "They can be more innovative and tend to have fewer restrictions in terms of how they're organized and who they can hire — there's a lot of potential."

3 College preparation

With college degrees becoming more and more necessary to enter the workforce, many charter schools aren't simply focused on getting their students into universities — they're designing programs to keep them there once the courses get tough. "Many charter schools have started tracking not just college-acceptance rates, but 'through rates,'" says Millinger. "They're looking at how to prepare kids for the day-to-day demands of college and how to access all of the resources a college offers that first-generation students may not be aware of."

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For the budding musician: String Theory Charter Schools

String Theory Charter Schools' four campuses have a fine-tuned approach to music. "We pride ourselves in combining specific majors in the arts and STEM with the overarching umbrella of technology, such as iPad instruction and Apple TVs," says Jack Carr, Vine Street High School principal.

By second grade, students are "musically literate," meaning they're able to write and create short rhythms and melodies. All students play the violin and learn ballet until fifth grade, when students choose from a range of arts majors, including instrumental or vocal music, classical ballet and Broadway dance.

"Recent highlights include painting a mural for the cafeteria at the Sheraton Hotel, which is our neighbor at 17th and Vine, and in theater, our production of "The Laramie Project," says Carr.

1600 Vine Street, 267-428-2224, stringtheoryschools.com

For the performance artist: Folk-Arts Cultural Treasures Charter School

Folk-Arts, or "FACTS" which opened in 2005 in Chinatown, combines culture and community to enhance the education of Asian-American and Asian immigrant students (Mandarin Chinese is the school's primary language). Lauched by Asian Americans United in partnership with The Philadelphia Folklore Project and guided by Pheng Lim, the school's principal, FACTS strives to "recognize the contributions of ordinary people as artistic beings and culture makers; to understand and embrace their own cultural identities; and to respect and appreciate the cultures of others." The arts programming ranges from traditional Chinese lion dance to storytelling to martial arts.

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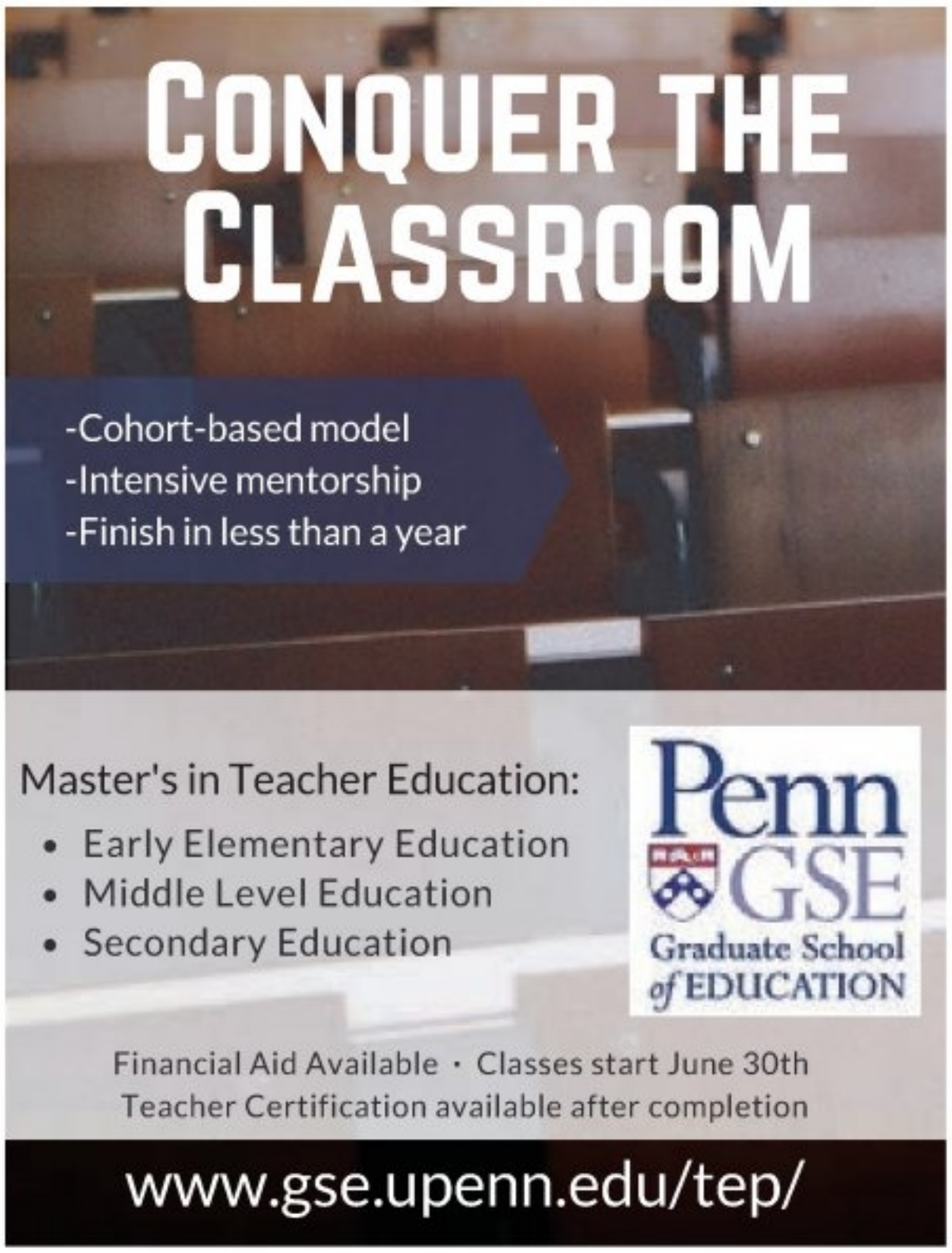

The eco-friendly butterfly mosaic bottle-cap project at Green Woods Charter. PROVIDED

For the next Monet: Green Woods Charter School

Claude Monet was devoted to capturing the beauty of the natural world in his landscapes — and so are the students at Green Woods.

Students take an interdisciplinary approach to art, science and history, with trips to the Philadelphia Art Museum, where they can view Monet's "Green Park" or "Marine View with a Sunset" up close as part of their curriculum.

Carolyn Mosbruger, an art teacher at Green Woods, detailed one class project: "Last year the students collected plastic bottle caps for the majority of the school year. We selected six butterfly designs. In conjunction with Earth Day, we began assembling six large butterfly mosaics using our huge collection of bottle caps. We discussed trash, recycling and how our creative use of a discardable material prevented the over 2,000 bottle caps we used from going into a landfill."

468 Domino Lane, 215-482-6337, greenwoodscharter.org

For the young soprano: Chester Charter School for the Arts

This K-12 music and arts-centric school began as a dream of Dr. John Alston, a Swarthmore College music professor. Alston established the Chester Children's Chorus in 1994, and wanted to expand the program he was so passionate about. Students at Chester participate in dance, drama, music, and visual arts courses. They've also welcomed world-renowned classical talent to the school, including acclaimed organist Philippe Lefebvre of Paris' Notre Dame Cathedral.

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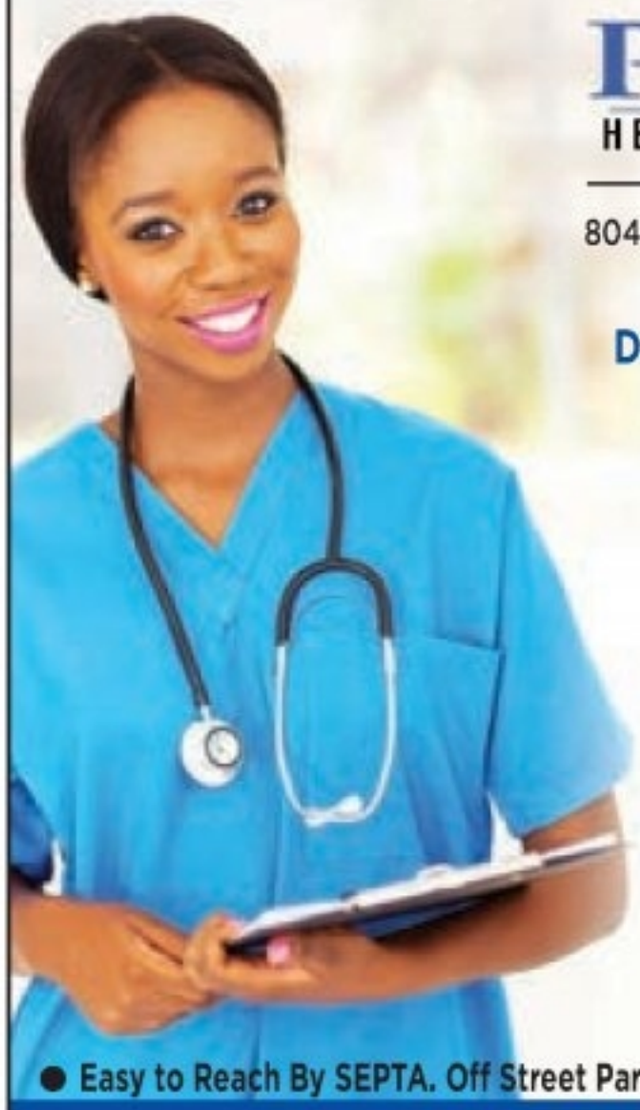

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UPenn's Peters helping solidify Philly

Whether it's kids or Olympic-caliber rowers, Libby Peters is one of rowing's rising coaching talents.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

There's just something about the Schuylkill River that's made Philadelphia the mecca for competitive rowing in America.

The best and most talented athletes in the sport always seem to find their way to the banks of the Delaware's meandering tributary and to its famous Boathouse Row.

That's what happened to Libby Peters.

"It was shortly after college I decided I wanted to continue training and I decided I would make a run for the national team in the Olympics," Peters, who was involved last month with the Olympic development coaching crew, said. "That naturally drew me to Philadelphia because it is a very strong rowing community with a long history of champions and Olympians. Vesper has a 150 year history and a lot of rowers in the Olympics were affiliated with it — it's the boat club of Jack Kelly, for instance."

Peters, who has more or less dedicated her life to the sport of rowing, is honored to be ascending in prestige alongside the highly successful and influential athletes and coaches who've been affiliated with Vesper in the past.

"I think what's interesting about Libby is that there is a special thing in Philly about hard work," said Ryan Sparks, CEO of Sparks Consulting (one of the leading companies providing rowing camps to kids), who worked closely with Peters when she was a summer counselor after college. "Philly really likes that type of person — look at Rocky."

Peters is a bright assistant working alongside Philly's best rowers and coaches. ALL IMAGES IGOR BELAKOVSKIY/SCULLINGFOOL PHOTOGRAPHY

Peters was a talented athlete who competed at Columbia University and was on the fast track to becoming an Olympian, finishing second in the Olympic trials and third in Worlds before her life was turned upside down when she was just 25. Her competing days were over when she was diagnosed with Stage 3 lymphoma.

"Obviously my focus shifted," Peters, who founded Philadelphia City Rowing — a program that exposes her favorite sport to local high school kids, said. "I focused on getting better and I stayed in the area for that. It took time to realize I would be moving on from my competitive career. A lot of my energy went to giving back to the rowing community."

Peters began by going school to school alongside former Olympic rowers (like Abington, PA's two-time gold medalist Susan Francia), educating kids on the sport that gives Peters her livelihood and arguably saved her life. Five years later, the program is thriving and expanding to invite middle schoolers to compete in the sport as well.

"It is available to all public school kids in Philly and it's a free program," Peters said. "It combines mentoring and tutoring and, like rowing, it encourages character development."

Peters recently accepted the post of assistant coach for the women's rowing team at Penn — in addition to her coaching gig with Vesper's high-performance program. The latest endeavor for Peters, when she isn't in Florida helping the United States prepare its Olympic squad for Rio,

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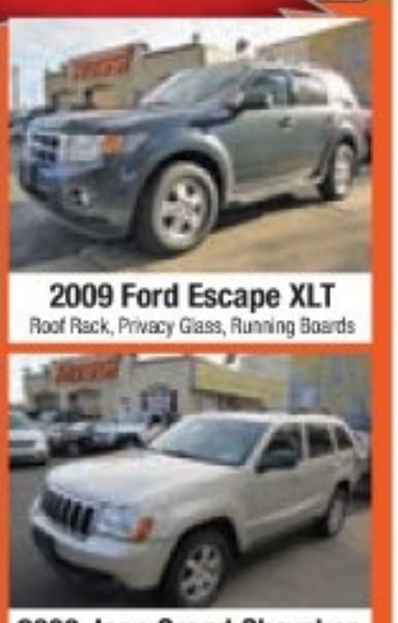
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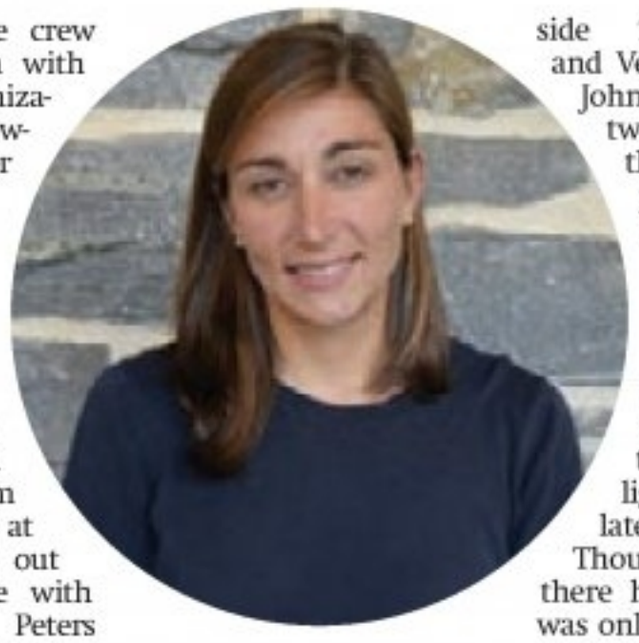

is partnering the crew program at Penn with Sparks — an organization that offers rowing camps all over the country.

"We are going to be partnering with Sparks rowing camps to offer a five-day camp in August, open to high school students from anywhere to stay at UPenn and row out of our boathouse with Penn coaching," Peters said. "They will see what it's like to row and be a D-I student-athlete. It's a really cool partnership because I used to coach at these rowing camps when I was at Columbia."

In Peters' mind, Philadelphia is the center of the rowing world, and of her life. And the South Philly resident is proud of the up-and-coming Quakers' program, now entrenched in the middle of the pack in the hotly contested Ivy League.

"It's a big community and collectively there are great boathouses and clubs to support the athletes," Peters said of the city. "It's not just a standalone effort. The Schuylkill River is great body of water for training. It's beautiful, it's always useful for rowing in terms of conditions."

Peters has had the luxury of coaching alongside 1992 Olympian and Vesper head coach John Parker. And two athletes from the Vesper's high-performance program will be representing the United States in the Olympics when Devery Karz and Kate Bertko take to the water for the lightweight double later in the summer.

Though she won't be there herself (her team was only allowed to take one coach with them to Rio), there is little doubt coaching in the Olympics lies in her future.

"That's absolutely the case," Sparks said. "The fact is that she is already coaching athletes who have Olympic ambitions ... She's one of the top people in our sport in her generation, I think that's fairly obvious from her record. Look at where shes coached and what shes done so far."

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Mentally tough Phillies believe unexpected success will last

The Phillies are an insane 14-3 in one-run games this season.

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After yet another series victory this weekend (over the Reds) the Phillies can't possibly keep winning like this, can they?

"I think we're as mentally tough as any team I've been on," said outfielder Tyler Goeddel. "I wouldn't' be surprised if we can keep this going all year."

Walk around the Phillies clubhouse and pose that question to every person in there, and that same response will be echoed from each individual. Philadelphia has won its last three series and has lost just one since April 21.

When playing with fire, a team is bound to get burned more times than not. The Phillies, though, are essentially walking barefoot on lava with a league-leading 17 one-run games. Yet somehow, they've won 14 of them.

Up next for the Phillies: three games against the Marlins at home. GETTY IMAGES

"People have been doubting us since the first game of the year," said Jeremy Hellickson. "We're just going to keep doing what we've been doing. Hopefully win some games by more than one run but it's fun. I think we can keep it up."

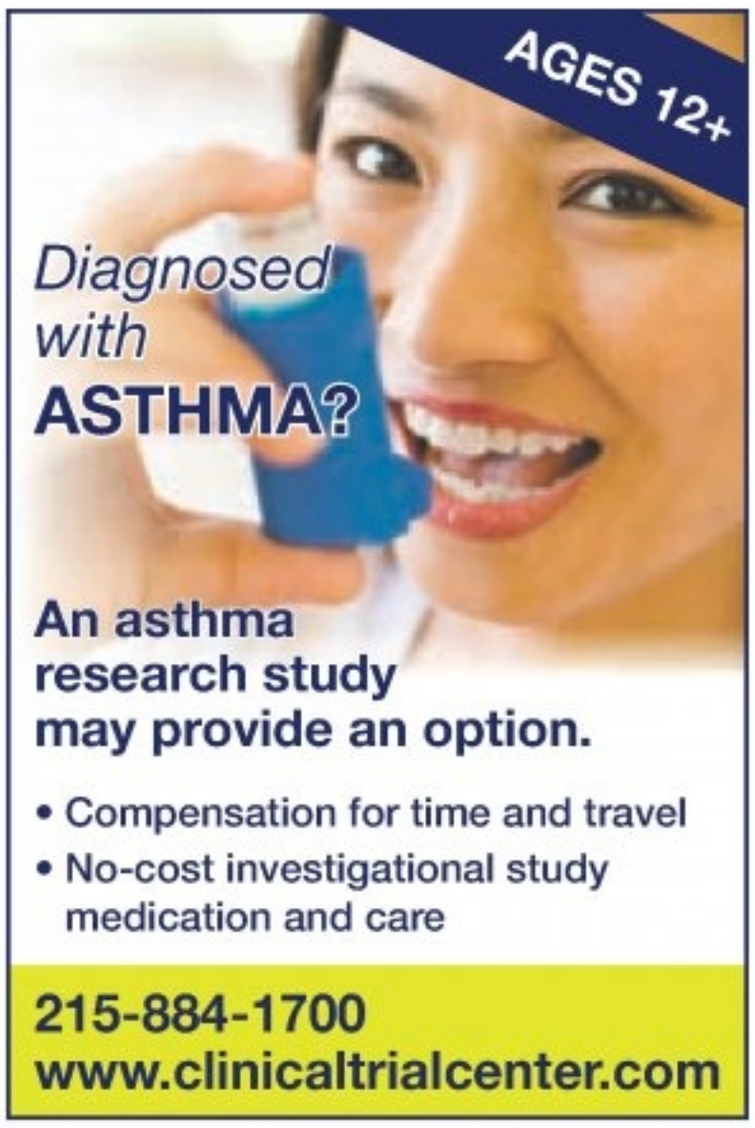
This has become a team that welcomes the challenge and the doubters. Pete Mackanin admitted that even he can't "quantify the success" of his ball club.

"I just know pitching has a lot to do with that," Mackanin said. "Our pitching has been outstanding. It tests your players and their ability to play well in close games. We've certainly done that all year and it's a great feeling knowing your guys are always in the game and can come out on top."

Mackanin knows there will be ebbs and flows to a season and does expect some "hiccups" to come eventually. His players, however, believe they can avoid getting into a serious rut because of that mental toughness they have developed.

"There's a lot of tough guys on this team," Hellickson said. "A lot of guys that just play hard and have fun. A lot of guys that like winning and putting it all out there. That's fun to be around."

That's about as accurate a statement to sum up the Phillies clubhouse as there is. It's not hard to see why this team is winning when watching them take the field.



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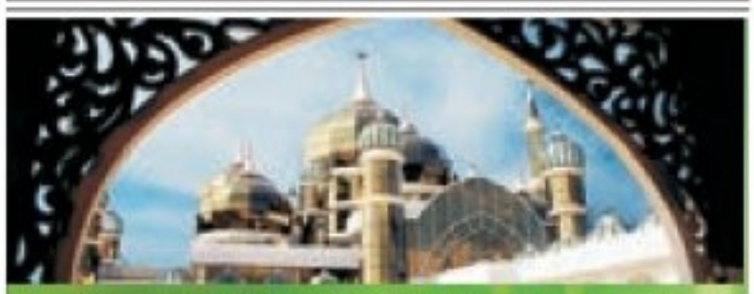

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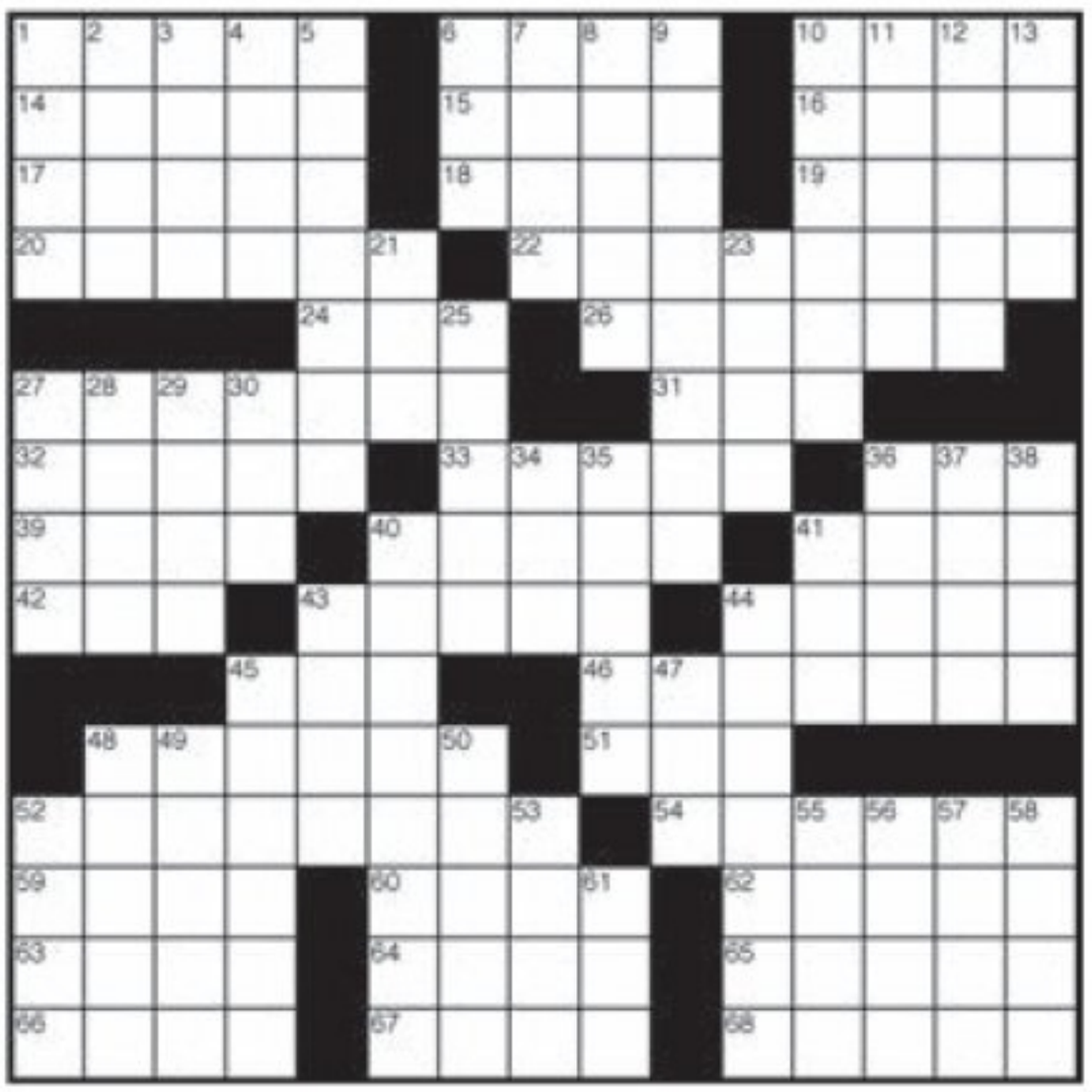

Across

1 Rodeo mount
6 Luggage fastener
10 Crazed captain
14 Bard's teen
15 A single time
16 Maroon-robe wearer
17 Girder (2 wds.)
18 Coup d'—
19 Hieroglyphics bird
20 Literary types
22 Not moving much
24 Instant grass
26 Oxygen producers
27 Trickle
31 Morning hrs.
32 Kind of race
33 Like Crusoe before Friday
36 Nagano honorific
39 Call for
40 Weather system
41 Casanova type
42 Authorizes
43 Jingles and haiku
44 Ruminates
45 Always, to a bard
46 Hook fastener
48 Cope
51 Egyptian boy-king
52 Purse item
54 Wildflower habitat
59 Freedom org.
60 Vast emptiness
62 Tara's owner
63 Authentic
64 She, in Seville
65 Brought back a movie
66 Cartwright son
67 Thrill, slangily
68 Process ore

Down

1 Admiral's jail
2 Night attire
3 Shaman's quest
4 Within reach
5 Drops in (2 wds.)
6 Shed tool
7 Aardvark's diet
8 Cut too short
9 Sulky
10 Adjusts, as tires
11 Sister's clothes
12 Not quite right
13 Some party!
21 Earth's star
23 Plucky
25 "The Wreck of the Mary —"
27 Early 007 foe (2 wds.)
28 Give off fumes
29 Seine moorages
30 Wretched
34 Herbert of "The Pink Panther" franchise
35 Start
36 Fair (hyph.)
37 Novelist Jean —
38 Tree house?
40 Buries the hatchet
41 Cause a blister
43 Sphagnum moss
44 Shooting stars
45 Happens next
47 Ick opposite
48 Smaller than mini
49 High mark (hyph.)
50 Mademoiselle's school
52 Lattice piece
53 Brick baker
55 Polite cough
56 Risk it
57 By mouth
58 Have a yen for
61 Family man

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easy

1		5		6	8	7	3	
	9	6			5		8	
				4		5		
						3		
	7		2	3	6		4	
		1						
		2		7				
	6		5			4	7	
	1	4	3	8		2		6

hard

8				7	6			3
		3		5				
	6	9	2					
6			8		3	2		
3		2				6		9
		8	6		1			7
					2	7	9	
				1		5		
5			3	8				6

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A disciplined approach to learning and incorporating something new into your life will help you establish a bright future. Don't fear your opponents, and don't flee change.

Taurus Joint ventures are best avoided. You'll be misled financially. Work independently on personal goals. Romance will give you added incentive to do your best.

Gemini Your expectations will fall short. Don't overreact or take on tasks that are insurmountable. Implement change behind the scenes without calling attention to your actions.

Cancer You may need a hand tending to home improvements. Offering something in return will keep everyone happy. A celebration will bring you closer to a loved one.

Leo Take on a challenge that promises to stimulate your senses and offers a peek at new possibilities, without disrupting what you've already established.

Virgo Learn as you go in order to get twice as much accomplished. An optimistic attitude will help you drum up any assistance you require. Personal gains are attainable.

Libra Good luck and solid prospects will develop through encounters you make while networking. Project energy and take a direct approach when dealing with others.

Scorpio You will want to dabble in subjects and philosophies that will take you to unfamiliar territory. Someone you meet along the way will motivate you to initiate personal change.

Sagittarius Do things your way, and don't let anyone persuade you to put him or her first. Once you have everything in its place and are happy with what you've done, offer help.

Capricorn You have great ideas and the energy needed to put them in action. Personal issues and concerns can be dealt with, and changes that will enhance your looks are encouraged.

Aquarius Relationships will suffer if you let your job come between you and promises you've made someone. Enforce changes that will allow you to accommodate your responsibilities.

Pisces Reflect on days gone by and remember the people who brought you joy. Reconnecting with old friends or establishing new rules to improve a relationship will work. EUGENIA LAST

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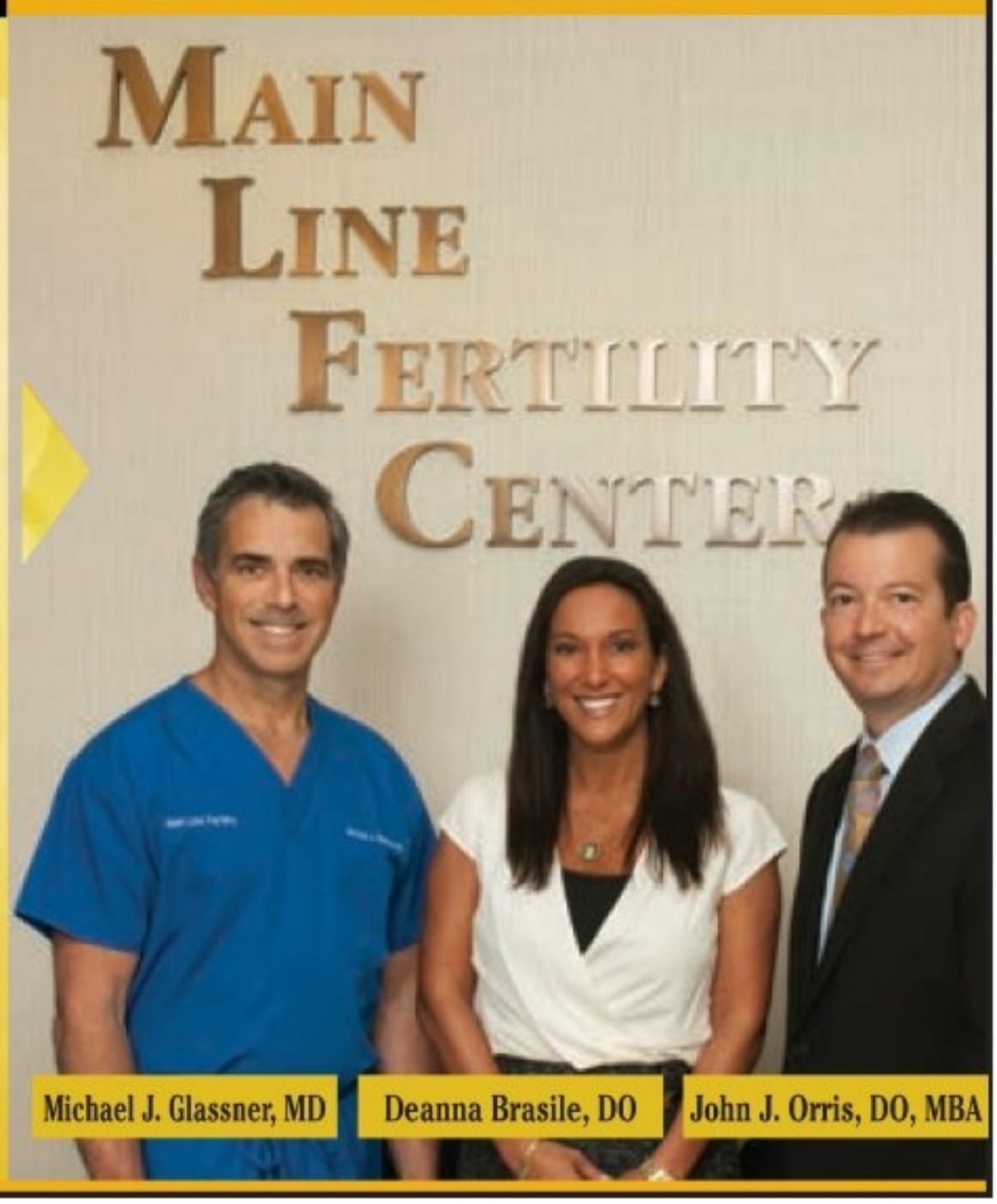

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